

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Eighth Norfolk Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Eighth Norfolk Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.3% (396) reside in the Eighth Norfolk Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (75) of Eighth Norfolk Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 69.4% of admissions from the Eighth Norfolk Representative District were male and 30.5% were female.
- Over 65.4% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 78.7% of admissions were white non-Latino, 11.1% were black non-Latino, 5% were Latino, and 5% were other racial categories.
- 58.5% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 20.7% were married, and 12.1% reported not to be married now.
- 26.5% of admissions had less than high school education, 53% completed high school, and 20.4% had more than high school education.
- 37.3% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 7% of those admitted were homeless.
- 12.1% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Eighth Norfolk Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Eighth Norfolk Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	291	250	79	81	31	54	36
FY '96	243	218	88	87	39	44	31
FY '97	362	321	85	99	67	85	56
FY '98	333	277	71	76	38	62	44
FY '99	350	271	99	105	53	99	56
FY '00	381	284	124	106	46	129	84
FY '01	396	286	113	107	52	138	91

- Since dropping in FY 1998, residents of Eighth Norfolk Representative District reported an increase across all the drug categories.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting heroin use more than doubled, and, alcohol use increased by 14%, marijuana by 43%, cocaine by 32%, and crack use by 67%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Eighth Norfolk Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	51.0 %	30.0%	5.8%	1.5%	1.2%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While heroin, marijuana, cocaine and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol was higher within your District.